

Claim 35 (new): The apparatus of claim 33, wherein the elongate member operates as a dilator.

Claim 36 (new): The apparatus of claim 33, wherein the elongate member further comprises a proximal end, a terminal end, and at least one groove extending longitudinally from the proximal end to proximate the terminal end.

Claim 37 (new): The apparatus of claim 34, the elongate member further comprising a proximal end and a distal end, and a lock attached to the proximal end, the lock being configured to lock the introducer sheath to the inner member.

Claim 38 (new): The apparatus of claim 34, the introducer sheath further comprising a distal end and a proximal end, the proximal end defining a handle.

Claim 39 (new): The apparatus of claim ~~39~~³⁹, wherein the handle is adapted to be fractured into two pieces.

Claim 40 (new): The apparatus of claim 33, the introducer sheath further comprising at least one longitudinally extending perforation along which the sheath can be split.